SUBJECT: CPA - State Food and Agriculture Council

Handbook Distribution

TO: State Leaders File Code: 180

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Farm Service Agency Rural Development

The State Food and Agriculture Council (FAC) Handbook, Version 2, has been updated and is being distributed for your use in carrying out FAC operations. It replaces Version 1, dated December 2003. The State FAC Handbook contains the policies to meet Departmental objectives.

The FAC's are the Secretary of Agriculture's primary vehicles for administering programs to our customers to address agricultural and rural development concerns at the local level. The Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Farm Service Agency, and Rural Development have the primary mission to provide services to customers through local Service Centers.

The Department of Agriculture's Reorganization Act of 1994 (P.L. 103-354) requires that agencies initiate cost savings. FAC is the organizational structure to maximize savings from shared equipment, office space, administrative support, and provide improved services to ranchers and farmers. Savings include seamless interagency program delivery, co-located offices, and streamlined operations of the three Service Center agencies.

BRUCE I. KNIGHT

Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service Chairman, National Food and Agriculture Council

Attachment

cc:

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